



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :  
Kurayasu HAMASAKI et al. : Docket No. 2001\_0596A  
Serial No. 09/853,681 : **Attn: BOX MISSING PARTS**  
Filed May 14, 2001 :

BOARD TRANSFER APPARATUS, BOARD  
TRANSFER METHOD, AND COMPONENT  
MOUNTING APPARATUS

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED  
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE  
FEE FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT  
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,  
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

**Kindly amend the above-identified application as follows:**

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

**Kindly amend claim 1 as follows:**

1.(Amended) A board transferring apparatus for transferring boards between the apparatus and a component-mounted board production apparatus, which comprises;  
an unprocessed board transfer unit including an unprocessed board transfer path along which an unprocessed board as the board not processed by the component-mounted board production apparatus is transferred, and an unprocessed board carry-in device which moves between the unprocessed board transfer path and the component-